

# Keynotes

March 1999

Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory

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## Agulhas Rings Revisited

Scientists from AOML's Physical Oceanography Division, the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute studied the North Brazil Current retroflexion and ring generation process during a second research cruise aboard the R/V *Seward Johnson* in January-February 1999. The research was carried out as part of a program entitled "Rings of the North Brazil Current: Their Generation and Role in the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Cell." NOAA and the National Science Foundation are jointly funding the program.

Agulhas rings surveyed during a previous cruise of the R/V *Seward Johnson* in November 1998 were once again observed to allow for sampling of the rings at a different stage of their life cycle. This marks the first occasion that repeated observations of the same Agulhas rings have been collected. The new observations and measurements will provide additional information about the evolution and decay of the rings and ultimately serve to improve understanding of the Atlantic Ocean's role in global climate change. Additional information about the program can be obtained from web page [www.aoml.noaa.gov/phod/nbc](http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/phod/nbc).

## St. Patrick's Day



March 17, 1999

## NOAA Administrator and Advisory Board Visit AOML

Dr. D. James Baker, NOAA's Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, and the NOAA Science Advisory Board (SAB) visited AOML on January 27, 1999 while in Miami for a Federal Advisory Committee meeting. The 15-member SAB, a distinguished group of scientists, engineers, resource managers, and educators, toured AOML, the Southeast Fisheries Center, the National Hurricane Center, and the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science. Dr. Baker and the SAB work closely together to develop long and short-range strategies for research, education, and the application of science to resource management. Visits to field offices such as AOML enable them to review and assess various aspects of NOAA's research program.

Director Kristina Katsaros and Division Directors Silvia Garzoli, John Proni, Peter Ortner, and Hugh Willoughby presented the visiting scientists with an overview of AOML's research. Emphasis was placed upon partnerships and collaborations with other NOAA laboratories, state and local government agencies, academia, and non-governmental organizations. Jerry Jarrell, Director of the National Hurricane Center, also presented information regarding NHC's science program. Posters of current projects positioned throughout AOML provided an informative perspective for guests to learn more about AOML's research activities.

During their visit to the Rosenstiel School, Dr. Baker and his administrative staff hosted a town meeting to interact with NOAA employees and answer questions concerning such issues as program funding, the future of hurricane research, and AOML's participation in the experimental Project Demonstration. Addressing his audience, Dr. Baker spoke positively of NOAA's role in facing the economic and environmental challenges of the 21st century.



NOAA administrator, Dr. D. James Baker, addressing the Miami-area science community during a "town-meeting" held at the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science auditorium.



## Volunteers Needed

**Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center.** Volunteers are needed to participate in restoration activities at Bear Cut Preserve (north end of Crandon Park on Key Biscayne) on April 3, 1999 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Volunteers will help return the park to its natural state by removing exotic "pest" plants and replanting native species. Contact Chris Landsea if interested in participating and for additional information at (305) 361-4319 or [landsea@aoml.noaa.gov](mailto:landsea@aoml.noaa.gov).

**Multiple Sclerosis 10K Walk.** Walkers, joggers, and runners are needed to form an AOML team for the 1999 Walk for Multiple Sclerosis to be held April 11, 1999 at George English Park in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Team sponsors and volunteers to help out during the event are also needed. Monies raised from the walk support research into the cure, cause, prevention, and treatment of MS, one of the two most common neurological diseases affecting young adults. Contact Howard Friedman if interested in participating and for additional information at (305) 361-4319 or [friedman@aoml.noaa.gov](mailto:friedman@aoml.noaa.gov).

**Corporate Run.** Walkers, joggers, and runners are needed to form an AOML team for the 1999 Miami Office Depot Corporate Run to be held May 6, 1999 at Bayfront Park in downtown Miami. Proceeds benefit the Leukemia Society of America. Contact Peter Black (305-361-4320 or [black@aoml.noaa.gov](mailto:black@aoml.noaa.gov)) or Ginger Garte (305-361-4430 or [garte@aoml.noaa.gov](mailto:garte@aoml.noaa.gov)) if interested in participating and for additional information.

**Pizza**  
(All-You-Can-Eat)

March 16, 1999

12:00 Noon

First-Floor Conference Room

Cost: \$5.00

(sponsored by the Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Committee)

# AOML PICNIC

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 1999

2:00 - 6:00 P.M.

BILL BAGGS-CAPE FLORIDA  
STATE PARK

(PAVILLION D18)

PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE  
WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY

(SPONSORED BY THE MORALE, WELFARE, AND RECREATION COMMITTEE)

## AOML Expands Recycling Program

*Kristina Katsaros*

Our NOAA symbol is beautiful and blue, but I would like to ask everyone to also consider the color GREEN. At AOML, we should be an example of conservation of our natural resources; afterall, it is in our mission statement! I would like to encourage each of you to make recycling a priority. Many are already "with it" in this regard, so I am only encouraging an even greater and more encompassing effort. Here is a listing of items currently being recycled at AOML:

**Paper:** Please keep a box marked "RECYCLE" near your desk or printer. Newspaper, colored and glossy paper, envelopes, computer paper, copier and typing paper, notepad or scratch paper, etc., can be recycled. Recyclable paper is collected weekly (every Monday) by our Facilities Management staff.

**Batteries:** Although household-type batteries are picked up monthly by our Metro-Dade curbside recycling program, feel welcome to bring your used batteries to AOML for disposal. A bin for batteries is located on the first floor near the loading dock.

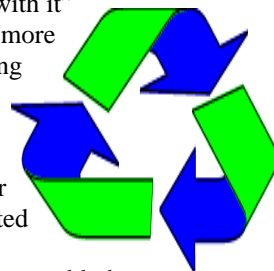
**Aluminum cans:** A bin for aluminum cans is located on the fourth floor near the kitchen area (a can crusher is also available for compacting the cans). Bins for aluminum cans will soon be placed on the first, second, and third floors as well. Watch future email messages for information about their exact location.

**Styrofoam packing material:** AOML reuses styrofoam packing material. A bin is located on the first floor near the loading dock for contributions of styrofoam packing material.

**Transparencies:** A box for used and/or unwanted transparencies is located on the third floor in the computer room.

Any other items for disposal, particularly used chemicals and other hazardous materials, should be given to our Facility Manager, Greg Baner, for proper disposal. We should also aim for energy conservation when at all possible: turning off lights and equipment when not in use is a good start.

Thanks for your cooperation and support in this important matter.



## Welcome Aboard

Dr. Chunzai Wang joins the staff of the Physical Oceanography Division as a CIMAS Assistant Scientist. Dr. Wang, formerly from the University of South Florida, will be conducting research on climate variability.

Ms. Roberta Lusic joins the staff of the Physical Oceanography Division as an Assistant to the Division.

## Farewell

John McKeever, Unix system administrator for the Office of the Director's ADP group, resigned from AOML on February 5, 1999. John, a two-year veteran of AOML, accepted a position with Sytex, Inc. to perform Unix network monitoring.

James Franklin, meteorologist with the Hurricane Research Division, resigned from AOML on February 26, 1999. James, a 16-year AOML veteran, accepted a hurricane specialist (forecasting) position with the National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida.

## Visitors

Dr. Oleg A. Godin of the School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, University of Victoria, Canada, visited AOML the week of January 18, 1999 to participate in a workshop on current monitoring in coastal areas.

# T-Shirt Contest

Design a NOAA T-shirt for AOMLers to wear during the MS Walk (April '99) and Miami Corporate Run (May '99)

Submit designs to Ginger Garte by  
March 26, 1999

Best design will be selected by the  
Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Committee

## Congratulations

Jules Craynock, Deputy Director of the Ocean Acoustics Division, competed in the Florida State Taekwondo (Korean Karate) Championships held in Miami on February 27-28, 1999. Jules received two second place Silver medals for Forms and Sparring in the Men's Senior Division.

Carl Sandin, MAST Academy High School student and AOML intern for the Hurricane Research Division, won the American Meteorological Society's (local chapter) First Prize award (senior's division) for his radar study of hurricanes at the Dade County/South Florida Regional Science and Engineering Fair held February 17, 1999.

Anne-Marie Wilburn, oceanographer with the Physical Oceanography Division, completed her studies, passed the bar exam, and was officially sworn in as a licensed attorney in the state of Florida at the Third District Court of Appeals in downtown Miami this past October 1998.

## INFORMAL RESEARCH REPORTS: MARCH 1999\*

Date	Division	Speaker	Title of Report
March 4, 1999	HRD	Dr. Robert Jones	Vortex motion in a two-layer semispectral hurricane tracking model.
March 11, 1999	PhOD	Dr. David Enfield	The southeast Pacific precursor to El Niño: Is it real and how does it work?
March 16, 1999	HRD	Mr. Robert Black	Mesoscale Electrification and Precipitation Study: Overview and other related topics.
March 18, 1999	PhOD	Dr. Elizabeth Johns	Direct observations of velocity and transport in the passages between the Intra-Americas Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, 1984 to 1996.
March 23, 1998	HRD	Mr. Peter Dodge	Radar-derived windfields in Hurricane Danny at landfall.

\*All reports begin at 3:00 p.m. in the first-floor conference room.



## Travel

Silvia Garzoli was an invited foreign expert at a meeting of the Committee for Coordination of Climate Research (CCRC) Programs in Paris, France on February 16-19, 1999.

Christopher Landsea will attend the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Changes' Extreme Events Workshop in Asheville, North Carolina on March 9-10, 1999 and present a paper entitled "Trends in Weather and Climate Extremes."

Terry Nelsen and John Proni will attend the 137th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America and the 2nd Convention of the European Acoustics Association, Forum Acousticum, in Berlin, Germany on March 14-19, 1999. Dr. Proni will also visit with colleagues in Kiel, Germany to confer with authorities in the field of acoustics.

Howard Friedman will attend an EEO Meeting in Silver Spring, Maryland on March 19, 1999.

Christopher Landsea will attend a meeting of the American Association of Geographers in Honolulu, Hawaii on March 24-26, 1999 and make a presentation on Atlantic hurricanes.

Hugh Willoughby, Sim Aberson, Michael Black, Frank Marks, and Robert Rogers will attend the U.S. Weather Research Program Conference in Boulder, Colorado on March 29-31, 1999.

Hugh Willoughby, Mark Powell, and Christopher Landsea will attend the National Hurricane Conference in Orlando, Florida on March 29-April 2, 1999.

## AEROBICS CLASS

Monday • Wednesday • Friday  
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

First-Floor Conference Room

Contact Ginger Garte  
for more information

(305-361-4430 or  
garte@aoml.noaa.gov)

## Science Labs to Offer Unique Research Environment

Shailer Cummings, AOML oceanographer, and Ginny Newell, Assistant Dean of the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, traveled to Papenberg, Germany, this past February to confer with personnel from the Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines (RCCL) and Meyer Werft Shipyard. NOAA and RSMAS are collaborating with RCCL on the design and outfitting of oceanographic and meteorological laboratories being constructed aboard one the RCCL's new Vantage class of ships. The Vantage ships will be smaller than the RCCL's Eagle ships, which are also being outfitted with science laboratories through the collaborative efforts of NOAA and RSMAS.

RCCL is committed to designing the laboratories to accommodate quality science programs. NOAA has taken a lead role in acquiring sampling equipment (acoustic Doppler current profilers, a flow-through sea water system and thermosalinograph, an optical particle counter, fluorometers, a partial carbon dioxide system, and an oxygen sensor) for the laboratories. The Rosenstiel School is configuring the scientific computer network and meteorological sensor suite, including sensors measuring physical, optical, and aerosol properties of the atmosphere.

Both the Vantage and Eagle ships will enable scientists to interact and share their research with the public, thereby promoting greater awareness and understanding of marine science. Such expanded research opportunities for visiting scientists are seen as a major new initiative and cooperative effort between industry, academia, and government. AOML scientists (Peter Ortner, Rik Wanninkhof, and Doug Wilson) will be among NOAA's first principal investigators fielding research programs on the specially-outfitted Vantage ship. Educational marine science programs for organized student groups and the general public will also be available. Development of materials for these programs is presently in the early planning stages.

Vantage ships will sail the Caribbean and the Pacific. However, predominant routing will be between the west coast of the United States and Hawaii and through the Inland Passage to Alaska. The first Vantage ship should sail into Miami in late 2001.

## Theme Park Discount Cards Available

Walt Disney Magic Kingdom Club membership cards for 1999 are now available free of charge at AOML. Magic Kingdom Club members, their spouses, and dependent children are entitled to benefits which include:

- Discounts on selected admission tickets for Disney theme parks and water parks.
- Discounts on selected resort accommodations.
- Discounts on selected merchandise at various locations at Walt Disney World, Disney store locations throughout North America, and the Disney catalog.

Club USA membership cards, which provide discounts to the Anheuser-Busch Adventure Parks (SeaWorld, Adventure Island, Sesame Place, Water Country USA, and Busch Gardens) are also available. Contact Chely Garcia to obtain a membership card(s) and/or for more information at (305) 361-4446 or garcia@aoml.noaa.gov.

*Keynotes* is published monthly by the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory. Contributions are welcome and should be submitted prior to the last week of each month to ensure inclusion in the following month's edition. Please address all correspondence to Ms. Gail Derr, Office of the Director, 4301 Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami, FL 33149. Contributions may also be submitted by fax at (305) 361-4442 or by email (derr@aoml.noaa.gov).

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*Keynotes* can be viewed online in PDF format at the following  
Internet web site address:  
<http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/od/keynotes/keynotes.html>